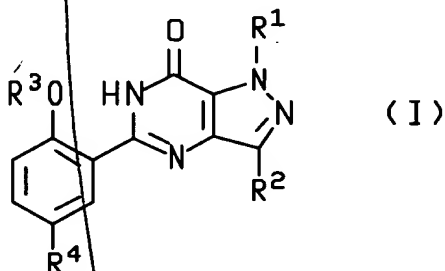


What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating sexual dysfunction in an animal with an injured spinal cord, comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



wherein:

- 20  $R^1$  is H;  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl;  $C_1$ - $C_3$  perfluoroalkyl; or  $C_3$ - $C_5$  cycloalkyl;  
 $R^2$  is H;  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl optionally substituted with  $C_3$ - $C_6$  cycloalkyl;  $C_1$ - $C_3$  perfluoroalkyl; or  $C_3$ - $C_6$  cycloalkyl;  
 $R^3$  is  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl optionally substituted with  $C_3$ - $C_6$  cycloalkyl;  $C_1$ - $C_6$  perfluoroalkyl;  $C_3$ - $C_5$  cycloalkyl;  $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkenyl; or  $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkynyl;  
25  $R^4$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted with OH,  $NR^5R^6$ , CN,  $CONR^5R^6$  or  $CO_2R^7$ ;  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl optionally substituted with CN,  $CONR^5R^6$  or  $CO_2R^7$ ;  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkanoyl optionally substituted with  $NR^5R^6$ ; (hydroxy) $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted with  $NR^5R^6$ ; ( $C_2$ - $C_3$  alkoxy) $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl optionally substituted with OH or  $NR^5R^6$ ;  $CONR^5R^6$ ;  $CO_2R^7$ ; halo;  $NR^5R^6$ ;  $NHSO_2NR^5R^6$ ;  $NHSO_2R^8$ ;  $SO_2NR^9R^{10}$ ; or phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl or triazolyl any of which is optionally substituted with  
30 methyl;

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  are each independently H or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl, or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino, 4-N( $R^{11}$ )-

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piperazinyl or imidazolyl group wherein said group is optionally substituted with methyl or OH;

$R^7$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl;

$R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl optionally substituted with  $NR^5R^6$ ;

5  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino or 4- $N(R^{12})$ -piperazinyl group wherein said group is optionally substituted with  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkoxy,  $NR^{13}R^{14}$  or  $CONR^{13}R^{14}$ ;

$R^{11}$  is H;  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl optionally substituted with phenyl; (hydroxy) $C_2$ - $C_3$  alkyl; or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkanoyl;

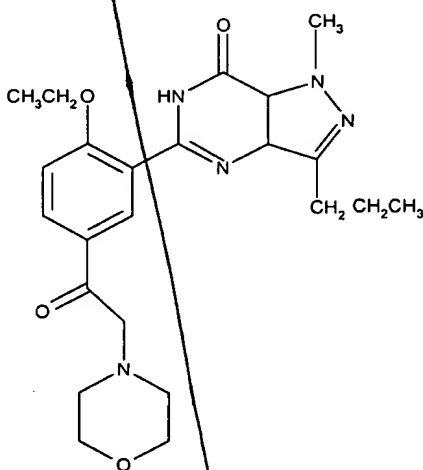
10  $R^{12}$  is H;  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl; ( $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkoxy) $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkyl; (hydroxy) $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkyl; ( $R^{13}R^{14}N$ ) $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkyl; ( $R^{13}R^{14}NOC$ ) $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl;  $CONR^{13}R^{14}$ ;  $CSNR^{13}R^{14}$ ; or  $C(NH)NR^{13}R^{14}$ ; and

$R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  are each independently H;  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl; ( $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkoxy) $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkyl; or (hydroxy) $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

15 or a pharmaceutical composition containing either entity.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from sildenafil, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and the compound having the structure:



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

25 3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said compound is sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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4. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is the citrate.

5. ~~5.~~ A method of treating sexual dysfunction in an animal with an injured spinal cord, comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a pharmaceutical composition containing either entity.

10 6. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is the citrate.

7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said animal is male and exhibits essentially no residual erectile function.

15 8. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein said animal is male and exhibits essentially no residual erectile function.

9. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said animal is human.

20 10. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein said animal is human.

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